WHEREAS; this year commemorates the 73rd anniversary of the Women's Armed Services Integration Act, which was signed into law by President Harry S. Truman on June 12, 1948, and enabled women to serve in all branches of the United States military as permanent, full members; and

WHEREAS; women have served in every branch and component of the United States Armed Forces—from the Revolutionary War to current conflicts throughout the world—to protect and defend our country's values and ideals; and

WHEREAS; women are the fastest growing demographic of veterans in our country, and Wisconsin is home to approximately 30,000 women veterans who deserve to be honored for their bravery, service, and sacrifice; and

WHEREAS; as trailblazers in an environment historically dominated by men, women veterans face a unique set of challenges within their battalions and much more remains to be done to ensure that women in the Armed Forces are treated equitably and with the respect they deserve; and

WHEREAS; the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs' (WDVA) women veterans program advocates for, empowers, supports, and highlights the achievements of our state's women veterans through a Woman Veteran of the Year Award, an annual Women Veterans Retreat, trailblazer articles, women wellness events, and the Wisconsin Veterans Museum's women veterans oral history archive and "I Am Not Invisible" traveling exhibit; and

WHEREAS; today and every day, the state of Wisconsin joins the WDVA and all Wisconsinites in commending the dedication and resilience of our women veterans and the many sacrifices made by them and their families;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim June 12, 2021, as

WOMEN VETERANS DAY

throughout the State of Wisconsin and I commend this observance to all our state's residents.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF I have become over my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State

*	e at the Capitol in the City of Madison this 12 th day of May 2021.
TONY EVERS, Governor	
By the Governor:	

DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE, Secretary of State